The TATLER.

By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

——— *Si quid noviſti rectius iſtis*
Candidus imperti, ſi non, his utere mecum. Hor.

From *Thurſday September* 14. to *Saturday September* 16. 1710.

From my own Apartment, September 15.

THE Hours which we ſpend in Converſation are the moſt pleaſing of any which we enjoy; yet, methinks, there is very little Care taken to improve our ſelves for the frequent Repetition of them. The common Fault in this Caſe, is that of growing too intimate, and falling into diſpleaſing Familiarities: For it is a very ordinary Thing for Men to make no other Uſe of a cloſe Acquaintance with each other's Affairs, but to teaze one another with unacceptable Alluſions. One would paſs over patiently ſuch as converſe like Animals, and ſalute each other with Bangs on the Shoulder, ſly Raps with Canes, or other robuſt Pleaſantries practiſed by the rural Gentry of this Nation: But even among thoſe who ſhould have more polite Idea's of Things, you ſee a Set of People who invert the Deſign of Converſation, and make frequent Mention of ungrateful Subjects, nay, mention them becauſe they are ungrateful; as if the Perfection of Society were in knowing how to offend on the one Part, and how to bear an Offence on the other. In all Parts of this populous Town you find the Merry World made up of an active and a paſſive Companion; one who has Good-nature enough to ſuffer all his Friend ſhall think fit to ſay, and one who is reſolved to make the moſt of his Good-humour to ſhow his Parts. In the trading Part of Mankind, I have ever obſerved the Jeſt went by the Weight of Purſes, and the Ridicule is made up by the Gains which ariſe from it. Thus the Packer allows the Clothier to ſay what he pleaſes, and the Broker has his Countenance ready to laugh with the Merchant, though the Abuſe is to fall on himſelf, becauſe he knows, as a Go-between, he ſhall find his Account in being in the good Graces of a Man of Wealth. Among theſe juſt and punctual People, the richer Man is even the better Jeſter; and they know no ſuch Thing as a Perſon who ſhall pretend to a ſuperior Laugh at a Man, who does not make him Amends by Opportunities of Advantage in another Kind: But among People of a different Way, where the pretended Diſtinction in Company is only what is raiſed from Senſe and Underſtanding, it is very abſurd to carry on a rough Raillery ſo far, as that the whole Diſcourſe ſhould turn upon each other's Infirmities, Follies, or Misfortunes.

I was this Evening with a Set of Wags of this Claſs. They appear generally by Two and Two; and what is moſt extraordinary, is, that thoſe very Perſons who are moſt together, appear leaſt of a Mind when joined by other Company. This Evil proceeds from an indiſcreet Familiarity, whereby a Man is allowed to ſay the moſt grating Thing imaginable to another, and it ſhall be accounted Weakneſs to ſhow an Impatience for the Unkindneſs. But this and all other Deviations from the Deſign of pleaſing each other when we meet, are derived from Interlopers in Society, who want Capacity to put in a Stock among regular Companions, and therefore ſupply thoſe Wants by ſtale Hiſtories, ſly Obſervations, and rude Hints, which relate to the Conduct of others. All Cohabitants in general run into this unhappy Fault; Men and their Wives break into Reflections which are like ſo much *Arabick* to the reſt of the Company; Siſters and Brothers often make the like Figure from the ſame unjuſt Senſe of the Art of being intimate and familiar. It is often ſaid, ſuch a one cannot ſtand the Mention of ſuch a Circumſtance: If he cannot, I am ſure it is for Want of Diſcourſe, or a worſe Reaſon, that any Companion of his touches upon it.

Familiarity, among the truly Well-bred, never gives Authority to treſpaſs upon one another in the moſt minute Circumſtance, but it allows to be kinder than we ought otherwiſe preſume to be. *Euſebius* has Wit, Humour, and Spirit; but there never was a Man in his Company who wiſhed he had leſs, for he underſtands Familiarity ſo well, that he knows how to make Uſe of it in a Way that neither makes himſelf or his Friend contemptible; but if any one is leſſened by his Freedom, it is he himſelf, who always likes the Place, the Diet, and the Reception, when he is in the Company of his Friends. Equality is the Life of Converſation; and he is as much out who aſſumes to himſelf any Part above another, as he who conſiders himſelf below the reſt of the Society. Familiarity in Inferiors is Saucineſs; in Superiors, Condeſcenſion; neither of which are to have Being among Companions, the very Word implying that they are to be equal. When therefore we have abſtracted

ſtracted the Company from all Conſiderations of their Quality or Fortune, it will immediately appear, that to make it happy and polite, there muſt nothing be ſtarted which ſhall diſcover that our Thoughts run upon any ſuch Diſtinctions. Hence it will ariſe, that Benevolence muſt become the Rule of Society, and he that is moſt obliging muſt be moſt diverting.

This Way of Talking I am fallen into from the Reflection that I am wherever I go entertained with ſome Abſurdity, Miſtake, Weakneſs, or ill Luck of ſome Man or other whom not only I, but the Perſon who makes me thoſe Relations has a Value for. It would therefore be a great Benefit to the World if it could be brought to paſs that no Story ſhould be a taking one, but what was to the Advantage of the Perſon of whom it is related. By this Means, he that is now a Wit in Converſation, would be conſidered as a Spreader of falſe News is in Buſineſs.

But above all, to make a Familiar fit for a Boſom Friend, it is abſolutely neceſſary that we ſhould always be inclined rather to hide than rally each others Infirmities. To ſuffer for a Fault, is a Sort of Attonement; and no Body is concerned for the Offence for which he has made Reparation.

P. S. I have received the following Letter, which rallies me for being witty ſooner than I deſigned; but I have now altered my Reſolution, and intend to be facetious till the Day in *October* heretofore mentioned, inſtead of beginning for that Day.

Mr. *Bickerſtaff*, *Sept.* 6. 1710.

'BY your own Reckoning you came Yeſterday about a Month before the Time you looked 'your ſelf, much to the Satisfaction of

Your moſt Obliged,

Humble Servant,

Plain Engliſh.

St. James's Coffee-houſe, September 15.

Advices from *Madrid* of the 8th ſay, the Duke of *Anjou*, with his Court, and all the Councils, were preparing to leave that Place in a Day or two, in Order to remove to *Valladolid*. They add, that the Palace was already unfurniſhed, and a Declaration had been publiſhed, importing, That it was abſolutely neceſſary, in the preſent Conjuncture of Affairs, that the Court were abſent for ſome Time from *Madrid*; but would return thither in Six Weeks. This ſudden Departure is attributed to the Advice, That the *Portugueze* Army was in Motion to enter *Spain* by *Braganza*, and, That his Catholick Majeſty was on the March with a ſtrong Detachment towards *Caſtille*. Two Thouſand Horſe were arrived at *Agreda*, and 'tis reported they were to join the reſt of the Body, with the King, and advance to *Callaiatud*, on their Way to *Madrid*, whilſt General *Starembergh* obſerved the Enemy on the Frontier of *Navarre*. They write from *Bayonne*, That the Duke of *Vendoſme* ſet forwards to *Spain* on the 14th.

Advertiſements.

MOrning-Gowns for Men and Women, of Silk, Stuffs, and Callicoe's (being the Goods of Perſons that failed) which were to be diſpoſed of at the Olive-Tree and Still, are now to be ſold at the Golden Sugar-Loaf up one Pair of Stairs, over-againſt the Horſe at Charing-Croſs; with a freſh Parcel at very low Rates, the Price being ſet to each Gown.

THE Houſhold Goods and fine China of the Hon. Admiral Churchil, lately deceaſed, will be ſold by Auction on Thurſday the 21ſt Inſtant at his late Dwelling-Houſe in St. James's Place, St. James's-ſtreet. The Goods and China to be ſeen the Monday, Tueſday, and Wedneſday before. Catalogues to be had at the Houſe.

*** Next Wedneſday will be publiſhed, for the Month of September, Bibliotheca Anatomica, Medica, Chirurgica, &c. containing a Deſcription of all the ſeveral Parts of the Body, each done by one or more eminent Phyſician or Chirurgeon, with their Diſeaſes and Cures. Illuſtrated with ſeveral Hundred Figures, done by the beſt Artiſts, and from the trueſt Deſigns. Publiſhed Monthly. This Eleventh for September, 1710. continues the Cures of the Diſeaſes of the Bones; as Fractures, Trepanning the Skull, &c. with ſeveral particular Tracts, and extraordinary Caſes, and Four Copper Figures. Printed by John Nutt in the Savoy, and ſold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall. Where may be had the 10 preceding Months. Price 1 s. each. Note, on Tueſday, the 26th Inſtant, will be publiſhed Atlas Geographus, for Auguſt.

*** There is juſt publiſhed, Royal Cookery; or, The compleat Court Cook: Containing the choiceſt Receipts in all the particular Branches of Cookery now in Uſe in the Queen's Palaces, St. James's, Kenſington, Hampton-Court, and Windſor; with near 40 Figures, curiouſly engraven on Copper, of the magnificent Entertainments, Inſtallments, Balls, Weddings, &c. at Court. Alſo Receipts for making the Soupes, Jellies, Biſques, Ragouſts, Patties, Tanzies, Forced Meats, Cakes, Puddings, &c. By Patrick Lamb, Eſq; near 50 Years Maſter Cook to their late Majeſties K. Charles II. K. James II. K. William, and Queen Mary, and to Her preſent Majeſty Queen Anne. To which are added, Bills of Fare for every Seaſon in the Year. Printed for A. Roper, and ſold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall.

*** The Wiſh: Written by Dr. W. Pope, Fellow of the Royal-Society. The Third Edition, being the only correct and finiſhed Copy. Printed for Tho. Horne, at the South-Entrance of the Royal-Exchange.

FOR Sale by the Candle, on Thurſday, the 27th Inſtant, at Southampton, at Ten in the Morning, by Mr. John Barbor, &c. Merchants, (viz.) 60 Hhds. of neat, deep, ſtrong French Claret, imported from Guernſey the 25th of Auguſt laſt; 8 Tuns of new fine Red Viana, made up ſtrong and deep with new Alicant one third (either in Pipes or Hhds.) 2 Tuns of neat Red Viana, in Pipes. 4000 Weight of fine Muſcovado Sugar, and 500 Weight of Cocoa Nuts, Prize Goods, lying in Cellars in the High Street of that Town. All to be ſeen on Tueſday and Wedneſday before the Sale, from 7 to 1, and from 2 to 6, and all Thurſday till the Hour of Sale. Catalogues to be had at the ſame Place.

FOR Sale by the Candle, on Thurſday next, the 21ſt Inſtant, at Lloyd's Coffee-houſe in Lombard-ſtreet, at Six a Clock in the Afternoon (only 1 Cask in a Lot) 23 Pipes of new excellent White Cancavalla, and 15 Pipes of new Red Lisbon Wines, neat and entire, lately landed, now in a Vault under Mr. Sam. Tyley's, Packer, in the Gateway of the Still-yard in Thames-ſtreet; and 10 Butts of very good Sale Wines, deep, bright and ſtrong, in a Cellar over-againſt the Caſtle in Mark-lane, between Tower-ſtreet and Fenchurch-ſtreet. To be ſeen on Tueſday and Wedneſday from 7 to 1, and from 2 to 6, and all Thurſday till the Time of Sale. To be ſold by T. Tomkins, Broker, in Seething-lane, between Tower-ſtreet and Crouched-Fryars.

DRopped on the Chaſe Side near Enfield Town, a Seven Stone Diamond Ear-Ring, 3 Drops, if offered to be ſold or pawned pray ſtop it, and give Notice to Mr. Overton at the Sign of the Golden Buck againſt St. Dunſtan's Church, Fleet-ſtreet, and you ſhall receive a Guinea Reward.

MR. Stocton's Sale of Jewels, Plate, &c. at the Bell in Henrietta-ſtreet, Covent-Garden, will be drawn on Michaelmas-Day in the Great Room at the Duke of Marlborough's-Head in Fleet-ſtreet, by Pariſh Boys, and out of Wheels. Any Gentlemen or Ladies concerned may have the Liberty of ſeeing the Prizes mix'd with the Blanks, and ſealing up the Wheels. The remaining Tickets are to be diſpoſed of at 2 s. each, at the ſaid Mr. Stocton's, at Mr. Amſon's at the Gold Ring the Corner of Salisbury-Court in Fleet-ſtreet, at Mr. Marriot's Houſe in New-ſtreet, Fetter-lane, and at Mr. Marrio's at the White Hart in the Poultry. Note, This Sale is drawn at the Duke of Marlborough's Head at the Requeſt of ſeveral Adventurers, and for their Convenience.

THE Lottery in Coltſon's Court is to be drawn there the 21ſt Inſtant.

THE Sale of Goods to be ſeen at Mrs. Butler's at the Indian Man in Ruſſel-ſtreet, Covent-garden, will certainly be drawn on Tueſday the 19th Inſtant. Tickets are to be had at the Place of Sale.

MRs. Pory's Sale of Goods is put off to Saturday the 23d Inſtant, at which Time it will be drawn without fail.

MRs. Symonds's Sale of Goods will begin at her Houſe in Great Cheſſea, on Wedneſday the 20th Inſtant; where all Perſons concerned may attend to ſee that 'tis fairly managed. Benefit Tickets to be ſeen at the Gold Ring in Fleet-ſtreet.

MR. Guthridge's Sixpenny Sale of Goods, at the Toy-ſhop over-againſt Norfolk-ſtreet in the Strand, of all Prizes, continues to be drawn every Day; where you may put in your Money, draw your ſelf, and take your Prize with you. The Goods are, a Silver Watch, two Silver-handled Knives and Forks, a Gold Ring, Mother of Pearl Ear-rings, a Pearl Necklace, Silver Thimbles, Silver Seals, three Dozen of Silver Salts and Tea Spoons. As they are drawn out, to be put in every Day Ribands, Fans, and Edgings, and other Goods. The Twopenny Sale, of all Prizes, are Toys.